

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A method for formatting a document having individual pages in preparation for printing the individual pages on a media sheet, the method comprising:

storing the individual pages of the document in a data file;

creating an imposition description file defined by a user;

creating an imposition plan based on the imposition description file;

creating an ordered set having multiple positions;

assigning the individual pages of the document to the positions of the ordered set in a reader order defined by a user; and

associating the positions in the ordered set of pages to the imposition plan, the layout of the individual pages in the imposition plan being arranged for printing on the media sheet.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the imposition plan has the same number of page positions as the number of positions in the ordered set.

3. The method defined in Claim 1, including creating multiple imposition description files, creating multiple different imposition plans based on the multiple imposition description files, and associating the positions in the ordered set of pages to the multiple imposition plans.

4. The method defined in Claim 1, including creating multiple ordered sets each having multiple positions, assigning individual pages to positions of the ordered sets, respectively, each in a reader order defined by a user, and associating the positions in the ordered sets to the imposition plan.

5. A computer system including computer readable memory having an imposition description file stored therein, the imposition description file containing the individual pages of a document and an imposition for the individual pages to enable printing of the individual pages on media sheets, and a computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for formatting a document of the individual pages in preparation for printing the individual pages, the computer executable instructions performing the steps comprising:

creating an imposition plan based on the imposition description file;  
creating a pageset comprising an ordered set having multiple positions;  
assigning the individual pages to the positions of the pageset in a reader order  
defined by a user; and  
associating the positions in the pageset with the imposition plan.

6. The computer system defined in Claim 5, in which the computer executable instructions perform the step of associating multiple pagesets with the imposition plan.

7. The computer system defined in Claim 5, in which the computer executable instructions perform the step of associating multiple imposition plans based on multiple imposition description files with a pageset.

8. The computer system defined in Claim 5, in which the computer executable instructions perform the step of associating multiple imposition plans based on multiple imposition description files with multiple pagesets.

9. A method for formatting a document having individual pages in preparation for printing the individual pages on a media sheet, the method comprising:

using a software object to represent an imposition plan based on an imposition description file;

using another software object to represent an ordered set having multiple positions corresponding to the pages of the document;

associating the individual pages of the document to positions of the ordered set in a reader order defined by a user; and

associating the positions in the ordered set of pages to the imposition plan.

10. A computer system including a computer-readable medium having an imposition description file stored therein, said file including the pages of a document, a reader order for the pages and an imposition for formatting the document in preparation for printing the individual pages on a media sheet, and computer software residing in computer memory including:

one software object representing an imposition plan based on the imposition description file;

one software object representing an ordered set having multiple positions;

computer executable instructions for assigning the individual pages of the document to the positions of the ordered set; and

computer executable instructions for associating the positions in the ordered set to the imposition plan, the layout of the individual pages in the imposition plan being arranged for printing on the media sheet.

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